

xc: Tribal Secretary ✓ 7/5/85

CONFIDENTIAL CLAIM RETRACTED

DATE: 5/16/13

AUTHORIZED BY: *SE*



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

LAGUNA AGENCY

P.O. BOX 1448

LAGUNA, NEW MEXICO 87026

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Superintendent

RECEIVED

JUL 03 1985

PUEBLO OF LAGUNA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

JUL 03 1985

Chester T. Fernando, Governor
Pueblo of Laguna
P.O. Box 194
Laguna, New Mexico 87026

Dear Governor Fernando:

One of the unanswered questions pertaining to the reclamation of the Jackpile Mine regards the legality of a negotiated agreement for reclamation of the mine. Enclosed, for your information, is a copy of recent BIA-Central Office correspondence addressing this matter.

You will note, the Solicitor has determined that the Department of the Interior has authority to approve an agreement whereby the Anaconda Company may provide a fixed sum of money for reclamation which, in turn, releases Anaconda of all responsibility. The memorandum stipulates other conditions which must be met.

As we discussed yesterday morning, there is much ground to be covered between now and the expiration of the comment period on the EIS. The determination of the Solicitor regarding a negotiated agreement appears to clear-the-way for discussion by the Pueblo with the Anaconda Company which could lead to a negotiated agreement.

Sincerely,

Superintendent

Enclosure

PUEBLO OF LAGUNA

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JUL 05 1985

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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